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Art on the Atlanta BeltLine Launches 2018 Season

ATLANTA – Atlanta BeltLine, Inc. (ABI) has announced the launch of the 2018 <u>Art on the Atlanta</u> <u>BeltLine (AoAB)</u> season following selection of participating artists. In its ninth year of existence, the AoAB exhibition will celebrate its largest year ever in scope, with more collaborations, new special exhibits, and broader methods of community engagement, all spanning more of the Atlanta BeltLine corridor. See attachment for full list of participating artists.

The Art on the Atlanta BeltLine exhibition is designed to support strong, livable communities and increased creative activities along the Atlanta BeltLine. ABI's desire is for selected art to be reflective of the unique histories and cultures of Atlanta's communities, improve the connectivity between neighborhoods and increase access to cultural amenities.

Art on the Atlanta BeltLine 2018 will feature a variety of art forms, activities, and events for audiences to enjoy and actively participate in. On July 1, selected artists will start installing for *Inertia*, the sculpture portion of AoAB. The BeltLine Walls mural festival beginning July 29 will take place in the Lee/Murphy Tunnel on the Atlanta BeltLine's Westside Trail. Running through August 11, the festival will feature muralists from Atlanta and beyond painting side-by-side and include a Family Paint Day on August 4.

The AoAB exhibition will also feature music and contemporary performances. A September 15 performance date will take place on the Westside Trail, with more specific details to come. On the Eastside Trail, the fan-favorite Lantern Parade will take place on September 22 in tandem with the Atlanta BeltLine's Fall Festival at Historic Fourth Ward Skatepark.

In addition, *Art on the Atlanta BeltLine* will host the Art. Music. Film. Movement (A.M.F.M. Festival) August 8-11 at The Bakery on the Westside Trail in partnership with the National Black Arts Festival's Next Gen Artists program and in collaboration with Artlanta Gallery. More details will be announced this summer.

"The breadth and scope of *Art on the Atlanta BeltLine* this year reflects the Atlanta BeltLine's renewed commitment to connecting with communities on a deeper level," said Brian P. McGowan, President and CEO of Atlanta BeltLine, Inc. "To celebrate our shared public spaces with art, music, and culture strengthens our sense of place and makes our neighborhoods come alive."

"We are excited to provide support from the City of Atlanta as the *Art on the Atlanta BeltLine* exhibition grows into a new phase of its life," said Camille Russell Love, Executive Director for the City's Office of Cultural Affairs. "Year over year, the exhibition highlights the Atlanta BeltLine's potential to encourage cultural connectivity throughout the neighborhoods it touches."

Submissions for *Art on the Atlanta BeltLine* were reviewed by a diverse panel of qualified individuals. The jurors were chosen in a competitive application process and were nominated based on outside nominations and feedback from <u>community listening sessions</u> held in late 2017. <u>Read more about the jury panel here.</u>

Major support for this project is provided by the City of Atlanta Mayor's Office of Cultural Affairs. Major funding for this organization is provided by the Fulton County Board of Commissioners. The project is also supported by an Art Works award from the National Endowment for the Arts. To find out more about how National Endowment for the Arts grants impact individuals and communities, visit www.arts.gov.

Stay abreast of *Art on the Atlanta BeltLine* announcements and events at <u>art.beltline.org</u>, or follow us on social media:

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About the Atlanta BeltLine

Atlanta BeltLine, Inc.'s vision is to be the catalyst for making Atlanta a global beacon for equitable, inclusive, and sustainable city life. As one of the largest, most wide-ranging urban redevelopment programs in the United States, the Atlanta BeltLine is building a more socially and economically resilient Atlanta with our partner organizations and host communities through job creation, inclusive transportation systems, affordable housing, and public spaces for all. For more information on the Atlanta BeltLine, please visit www.BeltLine.org.

About Art on the Atlanta BeltLine

Art on the Atlanta BeltLine is largest temporary public art exhibition in the history of Atlanta. It showcases the work of hundreds of visual artists, performers, and musicians along the Atlanta BeltLine corridor. This spectacular project places working professionals alongside emerging artists, and draws residents and visitors into some of the most unique public spaces in the City of Atlanta, providing powerful new perspectives on the city and its vibrant neighborhoods. The exhibition showcases how art strengthens and beautifies current and former industrial areas and creates signature spaces exemplifying the transformation of the city through the Atlanta BeltLine. Art on the Atlanta BeltLine touches almost 20 intown communities.

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